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simple, precise and accurate analysis of the law which he finds here. He is given each topic in skeleton form, then each division of it in proper order, historically traced from the ancient law to the local application in Virginia. While the author winds up nearly every topic with the local law of Virginia, it must not be supposed that the work is of value only to the Virginia lawyer; on the contrary, this is merely in addition to the text as a general treatise. There is scarcely a topic of the law of real property that is not expounded in its development; and while the citations are by no means complete they are selected with discretion, and anything like an attempt at encyclopedic treatment would require ten volumes rather than two; and by such a presentation the value of the work as an elementary treatise would be destroyed.

J. R. R.

CASES ON CRIMINAL LAW, selected from decisions of English and American Courts. By William E. Mikell, Professor of Law in the University of Pennsylvania. American Casebook Series, James Brown Scott, General Editor. St. Paul: West Publishing Company, 1908, pp. xviii, 610.

As is well known, Professor Mikell now teaches, and for a number of years past has taught, criminal law at the University of Pennsylvania; and those who have taken his course testify that he knows his subject to a detail and teaches it thoroughly well. In 1904 he brought out a casebook on criminal law, which he has used in his classes since. Therefore there is probably no man in the country better fitted to select a collection of cases on this subject than he. His first collection was probably the result of a wide knowledge of the subject before he began the immediate task, and a considerable experience in teaching it during the process. The present collection is the added result of his use of that collection from then till now. Apparently that experience confirmed him in his original opinions to a very large degree; for the plan of treatment pursued in the original work is adopted without a single change in the present book. That book contained 983 pages, the present contains 610; the cases in that collection appear in the present in practically the same order, except that about a third of them are omitted. His experience has enabled him to decide what cases could best be spared, and thus reduce the size of the whole to conform more nearly to the amount that could be covered in a course in the time that is given to the subject in most law schools. In addition to the cases from his original collection he has inserted here and there a few old cases discovered since the original publication, or found from experience to be worthy of space. He has also added just a sprinkling of cases decided since his first work was published. In the advertisement of the publisher we were told that Professor Mikell would select cases for the series on criminal law and procedure; and as this collection does not deal with procedure, we may expect another volume on that subject.

J. R. R.